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DEVICE FOR INFUSION THERAPY

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a device for infusion therapy including a balloon catheter that can be inserted into a blood vessel to transluminally administer drugs and cells or supply a treatment instrument for treatment of cardiac muscle or the like.

10 Background Art

Various types of balloon catheters have been developed in quest of less invasive treatment methods for various kinds of diseases. Such a balloon catheter as a transluminal treatment device is intended to occlude main blood flow temporarily or semipermanently to examine or improve abnormality that occurs. For example, a conventional balloon catheter used in percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty is described in Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 5-285222, in which an expanded balloon is mainly used to dilate a narrowed blood vessel.

For infusion of drugs, cells, or a treatment instrument such as an injection needle into cardiac muscle in which myocardial infarction occurs or may occur, infusion therapy has been considered such that the drugs or the like are directly administered by thoracotomy, or a catheter is percutaneously inserted into a heart chamber through inferior vena cava, a tip of the catheter is brought close to the cardiac muscle, and

the injection needle is inserted into the cardiac muscle via the catheter to administer the drugs or master cells.

[0004] The conventional catheter used in this infusion therapy is not intended to occlude a blood vessel, and is thus of a type that uses no balloon. The catheter is usually guided to a target position by a guide wire.

[0005] However, the method for directly administering the drugs or the like into the cardiac muscle tissue by thoracotomy for the infusion therapy into the cardiac muscle requires opening the chest under general anesthesia and temporarily stopping the heart using extracorporeal circulation, which is highly invasive to the patient.

[0006] The infusion therapy in which the catheter percutaneously approaches the heart chamber, and the needle is inserted into the cardiac muscle via the catheter to administer the drugs requires securing a stiff and thick guiding catheter to the inside of the beating heart, which may damage chordae tendineae in the heart chamber to cause postoperative sequelae.

[0007] Thus, the infusion therapy into the cardiac muscle tissue using the conventional techniques is incomplete, and essential and more effective treatment means has been desired for myocardial infarction by recovering blood flow in an ischemia area. However, there has been no means for improving an ischemia area that causes myocardial infarction, as well as directly and locally supplying necessary drugs or the like to a diseased area around a body cavity requiring in vivo treatment.

[0008] In view of the above described points, the invention has an object to invent a novel treatment method, and provide

In view of the above described points, the invention has an object to invent a novel treatment method, and provide a catheter and a device for infusion therapy suitable for the invented treatment method.

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Disclosure of the Invention

The inventors have eagerly studied means and a method for effectively transluminally delivering drugs to a target spot without invading areas other than a diseased area using 10 means such as a guiding catheter or the like, and found that a balloon catheter, which has a small diameter so as to be inserted into a guiding catheter and delivered to an in vivo target area, and can create an occluded area in a limited local area without occluding main blood flow, and reversely infuse 15 drugs or the like necessary for treatment into the local area only, is suitable for achieving the object of the novel treatment method, thus reaching the invention.

In order to achieve the above described object, the invention provides a catheter and a device for infusion therapy 20 that preserves at least main blood flow, creates an occluded from a main blood vessel between two balloons, and supplies drugs, cells, a treatment instrument, or the like according to a treatment method to the occluded area.

Specifically, the invention according to claim 1 provides 25 a device for infusion therapy including: a balloon catheter; a guide wire to be inserted into a guide lumen of the balloon catheter; pulsation detection means for detecting pulsation of the heart; and stroke means for causing the guide wire to stroke in synchronization with the pulsation of the heart based

on a detection signal of the pulsation detection means, wherein the balloon catheter is a balloon catheter for insertion into a blood vessel in which a plurality of lumens extending along an axis are formed in one catheter body, and two expandable balloons expand toward outside with respect to the catheter body are arranged axially in parallel, characterized in that the plurality of lumens include: an infusion lumen that has an infusion hole communicating with an outside of the catheter body between the two balloons, and can supply drugs, cells, a treatment instrument, or the like to the outside of the catheter body through the infusion hole; balloon lumens that communicate with insides of the two balloons to control expansion of the balloons; a bypass lumen that communicates with the outside of the catheter body in each position distal and proximal, which is outside of the two balloons with respect to a tip of the catheter body, and bypasses an occluded area formed by the two balloons to allow blood flow; and a guide lumen into which a guide wire that guides the catheter body to a target position is inserted, and the guide lumen communicates with the outside of the catheter body in each position distal and proximal, which is outside of the two balloons to also serve as the bypass lumen.

According to the invention, the two balloons are expanded to form an independent occluded area in the blood vessel between the two balloons to allow the drugs or the like to be supplied through the infusion hole to the local area of the occluded area only. Thus, if a bifurcated blood vessel connects to the occluded area, the drugs or the like are infused into the bifurcated blood vessel to allow the drugs or the like to be supplied to a diseased area through the bifurcated blood vessel. Of course, if there is a diseased area in a blood vessel wall that constitutes the occluded area, drugs or the like only necessary for the local diseased area can be supplied.

It is also possible to cause a negative pressure in the infusion lumen to suck and remove, from the infusion hole, substances in the occluded area such as the drugs supplied through the infusion hole.

5 Blood flow is ensured by the bypass lumen even if the blood vessel is occluded by the balloons, and thus blood flow in the blood vessel can be ensured even if the blood vessel is occluded by the balloons for a predetermined time for conservative therapy or the like.

10 There is no need for the independent bypass lumen, thus reducing the number of lumens in the catheter body to increase a sectional area of a hole of the bypass lumen.

15 Pumping action in the bypass lumen by causing the guide wire to stroke in synchronization with the pulsation of the heat improves efficiency of blood circulation by the bypass lumen.

20 If lost cells of cardiac muscle tissue or a blood vessel can be reconstituted by infusing various factors, drugs, cells or the like, the condition of the disease can be essentially improved. The treatment method to which the invention is suitably applied, that is, the idea of the approach to an organ such that various factors, drugs, and cells are infused into an ischemia area in reverse of blood flow through the coronary vein to substantially treat the organ has been unknown.

25 Next, the invention according to claim 2 is characterized in that one balloon lumen communicates with the insides of the two balloons in addition to the configuration according to claim 1.

According to the invention, only one lumen is required for expanding the two balloons, thus reducing the number of lumens in the catheter body to increase a sectional area of a hole of the bypass lumen.

Next, the invention according to claim 4 is characterized in that the balloon catheter is a catheter for insertion into a coronary vein in addition to the configuration according to any one of claims 1 and 2.

5 According to the invention, an unknown approach to an organ is allowed such that various factors, drugs, and cells are infused into a diseased area such as an ischemia area in reverse of blood flow through the coronary vein to substantially treat the organ.

10 Specifically, master cells or drugs can be administered to target cardiac muscle tissue only through the bifurcated blood vessel connecting to the occluded area formed by the two balloons. In this case, there is no need to directly insert the catheter up to the target cardiac muscle tissue.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a side schematic view of a catheter according to an embodiment of the invention;

5 Figure 2 is a sectional diagram of the catheter in use according to the embodiment of the invention;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken along the line A-A in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken along the line B-B in Figure 1;

10 Figure 5 is a sectional view taken along the line D-D in Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken along the line C-C in Figure 1;

15 Figure 7 is a sectional view taken along the line E-E in Figure 1;

Figure 8 illustrates use of the catheter according to the embodiment of the invention; and

a side of a tip 1a of a catheter body 1 constituted by a flexible tube.

[0036] The catheter body 1 includes four lumens as in a sectional view in Figure 3. The four lumens are a guide lumen 4 that is the largest and also serves as a bypass lumen, an infusion lumen 5, and two pairs of balloon lumens 6 and 7 communicating with the balloons 2 and 3.

[0037] The guide lumen 4 is a lumen into which a guide wire 9 is inserted from a guide wire port 8 of a tail end 1b, and extends along the catheter body 1 from the tail end 1b to the tip 1a and opens at the tip 1a of the catheter body 1. A hole 4a of the tip 1a also serves as a hole proximal to the bypass lumen. Distal and proximal positions are presented herein with reference to the tip 1a of the catheter body 1.

[0038] The guide lumen 4 has one or more bypass hole 14 in a position closer to the tail end 1b than the two balloons 2 and 3, that is, in a distal position as shown in Figures 2 and 4. This allows blood flow in the blood vessel even if the blood vessel is locally occluded by the two balloons 2 and 3.

[0039] The infusion lumen 5 communicates with an infusion port 10 on the side of the tail end 1b, extends from the side of the tail end 1b to a position between the two balloons 2 and 3, and communicates with an infusion hole 11 for communication with the outside of the catheter body 1 in the position between the two balloons 2 and 3 as shown in Figures 2 and 5.

[0040] For the catheter according to the embodiment, a sectional area of the catheter body 1 in terms of a circle preferably

has a diameter of $0.5 \text{ mm}\phi$ to $2 \text{ mm}\phi$. The point is that the catheter may be inserted into a vein with play, and an opening sectional area more than a predetermined size may be ensured as the bypass lumen. In the embodiment, the diameter is $0.635 \text{ mm}\phi$. An opening sectional area of the guide lumen 4, that is, the bypass lumen in terms of a circle preferably has a diameter of $0.4 \text{ mm}\phi$ to $1 \text{ mm}\phi$. Too small a diameter may cause difficulty in ensuring blood flow of a predetermined amount or more.

[0041] Further, the balloon lumen 6 communicates with a proximal balloon port 12, and the balloon lumen 7 with a distal balloon port 13, respectively, in the tail end 1b, and extend up to the positions of the balloons 2 and 3 to communicate with the inside of the corresponding balloons 2 and 3 as shown in Figures 2, 6 and 7.

[0042] In Figure 1, the two balloons 2 and 3 are shown having different sizes, but may have the same size, or the distal balloon 3 may be larger. The point is that the balloons may occlude the blood vessel without damaging the blood vessel when expanding.

[0043] Further, the guide wire 9 is provided that is inserted into the guide lumen 4 from the guide wire port 8.

[0044] Next, an example of use or the like of the balloon catheter having the above described configuration will be described.

[0045] Use in treatment of a lesion (an ischemia area), that is, use when drugs, cells or the like are infused into cardiac muscle of a diseased area will be now described by way of example.

[0046] As shown in Figure 8, a guiding catheter 15 is inserted up to an outlet of a coronary vein 16 and held therein.

[0047] Then, the balloon catheter according to the invention previously combined with the guide wire 9 is inserted through the guiding catheter 15 into the coronary vein 16 in reverse of the blood flow to adjust so that a blood vessel area surrounding the lesion (an area including a bifurcated blood vessel connecting to the lesion) is placed between the two balloons 2 and 3 as shown in Figure 2.

[0048] Next, the guide wire 9 is pulled back until the tip 1a of the guide wire 9 is brought to a position near and distal to a bypass hole (the state in Figure 2). This causes the hole of the tip 1a of the guide lumen 4 to communicate with the bypass hole to allow blood flow bypassing the outside of the catheter body 1 at the positions of the two balloons 2 and 3.

[0049] Around the time of the operation of the guide wire 9, gas is pumped to the balloon lumens 6 and 7 to expand the balloons 2 and 3 and locally occlude the blood vessel, thus forming an occluded area X between the balloons 2 and 3.

[0050] Next, drugs to be administered to the lesion are pumped from an infusion port. The pumped drugs pass through the infusion lumen 5, and are supplied into the occluded area X with a predetermined pressure from the infusion hole 11. Further, the increase in the pressure in the occluded area X causes fluid in the occluded area X to reversely flow in the bifurcated blood vessel connecting in the occluded area X, and be then infused and administered to the lesion.

[0051] Before the administration of the drugs or the like, a negative pressure may be caused in the infusion lumen 5 to

suck and remove all or part of the blood in the occluded area X and then supply the drugs or the like.

[0052] As described above, by using the catheter according to the embodiment, even if the main blood vessel that forms the local occluded area X including a treatment area or a bifurcated blood vessel connecting to the treatment area is occluded by the balloons 2 and 3, the drugs or the like can be supplied to the local treatment area only while ensuring forward and reverse blood flow in the main blood vessel bypassing the occluded area X. Specifically, a substance required for treatment can be infused into a limited occluded area only while ensuring the blood flow.

[0053] The balloons 2 and 3 do not dilate a narrowed area, but preferably minimize leaks of drugs from the occluded area X.

[0054] The drawings show only one bifurcated blood vessel in the occluded area X, but the occluded area X is usually set so as to include one to ten bifurcated blood vessels.

[0055] In the above described embodiment, the case of administering the drugs or the like to the diseased area via the bifurcated blood vessel connecting to the occluded area X is illustrated, but the invention is not limited to this. When a lesion such as a tumor in the wall of the main blood vessel in the occluded area X is to be treated, drugs supplied to the occluded area X directly act on the diseased area. Also in this case, the blood flow in the main blood vessel is ensured, thus allowing the occluded area X to be formed for a long hours.

[0056] An injection needle may be exposed from the infusion hole 11 and directly inserted into the diseased area to infuse drugs, or suck and remove fluid or cells in the diseased area by the inserted injection needle.

[0057] In the embodiment, the balloon lumens 6 and 7 are formed for each of the balloons 2 and 3, but one balloon lumen 6 and one balloon lumen 7 may be connected to the two balloons 2 and 3 to reduce the number of lumens in the catheter body 1.

[0058] In the embodiment, the guide lumen 4 also serves as the bypass lumen, but the invention is not limited to this. An independent bypass lumen may be provided.

[0059] The guide wire 9 pulled back to the position distal to the bypass hole may be adapted to stroke by a predetermined amount of stroke in synchronization with pulsation of the heart. For example, as shown in Figure 9, a cylinder rod 21 of a piston 20 is connected to the guide wire 9. A signal from known pulsation detection means 22 for detecting heart beat is adapted to be supplied to a controller 23, and the controller 23 instructs the piston 20 to reciprocate in synchronization with the signal from the pulsation detection means 22. Reference numeral 24 denotes a grip that connects to the rod of the piston 20 to grip the guide wire 9.

[0060] In this way, causing the guide wire 9 to stroke in synchronization with the pulsation allows efficient blood flow via the bypass lumen by pumping action.

[0061] In the above description, the case where the piston 20 constitutes the body of the stroke means is illustrated,

but a stepping motor or the like may constitute the stroke means.

Industrial Applicability

[0062] As described above, the invention allows drugs or the like to be supplied to a local area only while ensuring blood flow.